financial year 1998-99. A basic custom duty of 5% and a countervailing duty of Rs. 850/- per tonne, was imposed on imported sugar w.e.f. 28th April, 1998. The basic custom duty on imported sugar was increased to 20% w.e.f. 14.1.1999. In the Union Budget for 1999-2000, the duty on imported sugar has further been increased from 20% to 27.5% (25% plus 10% surcharge).

Construction of FCI Godowns in Andhra Pradesh

2835. SHRI E. BALANANDAN: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that there is a long pressing demand for construction of more godowns for the Food Corporation of India in Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) how many private godowns have been hired by FCI for storage of foodgrains, giving the details of capacity and cost thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYAPAL SINGH YADAV): (a) and (b) The total storage capacity available with FCI (Owned/Hired & CAP) in Andhra Pradesh as on 1.3.1999 is 21.95 lakh MT and the utilisation of this capacity is about 76%. As such the existing storage capacity is sufficient to meet the PDS requirement.

FCI propose to construct additional capacity at the following centres during the 9th Five Year Plan period:—

(1) Kakatur (Nellore)—30,000 MT

(2) Amalapuram (East Godawari)—10,000 MT

There are 15 godowns hired by the FCI in Andhra Pradesh as on 1.3.1999 with a capacity of 55,740 MTs from private parties. The details are given in the enclosed statement below.

Statement

The Storage Capacity Hired by the FCI

S. No.	Centre	Capacity
1.	Jadeherla	3340
2.	Cuddapah	2500
3.	Kodad	2000
4.	Y.Y. Depot (Nellore)	2500
5.	Rajuppalam	5000
6.	Kakatur	10000
7.	Bodhan	5300
8.	Kanteswal	5000
9.	Nizamabad	4000
10.	Kamareddy	5000
11.	Vijianagram	7100
12.	Lalchai Pela	600
13.	Bobbili	600
14.	Jammu	1000
15.	Cheepurapally	1800
	TOTAL	55740

उत्तर प्रदेश के पर्वतीय मंडलों (डिविजनों) के लिए खाद्यान्न की व्यवस्था

2836. **श्री मनोहर कान्त ध्यानी:** क्या खाद्य और उपभोक्ता मामलें के मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि उत्तर प्रदेश के पर्वतीय क्षेत्रों के दो मंडलों में गरीबी रेखा के नीचे (बी०पी०एल०) श्रेणी की संख्या नाम मात्र है और जो 12 प्रतिशत से कम है;

(ख) क्या यह सच है कि इससे पूर्व वहां प्रति व्यक्ति प्रति माह के आधार पर पूर्ण राशन उपलब्ध कराया जाता था;

(ग) यदि हां, तो क्या सरकारी को बी० पी० एल० योजना लागू होने के बाद उन क्षेत्रों में अकाल जैसी स्थिति उत्पन्न होने जैसे दुष्प्रभावों की जानकारी है; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो सरकार द्वारा इस संबंध में क्या उपचारात्मक उपाय किए गए हैं?